(MECL) had carried out exploration and estimation of reserves for primary gold in Maruda and Nilambur area and for placer gold in the river channels of Chaliyar and Punnapuzha in Nilambur Valley.

2. Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) has established gold ore reserves in Maruda Central block, Malappuram district. KMEDP has estimated resources of auriferous gravel in Nilambur Valley, Kerala.

Drinking Water in Rural Areas

984. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been set to provide drinking water in rural areas where no source is available;

(b) if so, details of the scheme proposed to be launched to provide drinking water in rural areas;

(c) the number of villages likely to be benefited by this scheme; and

(d) the measures being taken to resolve the problem of drinking water in rural areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Safe drinking water is being provided to 'Not Covered' habitations under the normal plan programme of Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission and State Sector Minimum Needs Programme.

(c) 52442 'not covered' inhabitations are likely to be provided with safe drinking water during 1995-96

(d) All the remaining 'Not Covered' habitations are proposed be covered by August, 1997.

Transport subsidy on Seeds

905.SHRI RAM RATAN RAM: Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the areas where transport subsidy on seeds is being given for speedy supply of seeds;

(b) the amount of this subsidy given for the last three years and on what amount of seed; and

(c) the steps being taken to see that proper supply of seeds are maintained in the North Eastern region of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN) (a) A Central Sector Scheme on Transport Subsidy is being implemented in North Eastern States including Sikkim.

In addition, transport subsidy is also available to not easily accessible/remotely situated areas of all States under a New Central Sector Scheme called "Integrated Seed Development, which is being implemented during the current financial year, 1995-96.

(b) An amount of Rs. 32.02 lakhs, Rs. 22.95 lakhs and Rs. 31.52 lakhs was given during 1992-93 to 1994-95 for the seed quantities of 69,115 quintals, 57,945 quintals and 33,731 quintals respectively.

(c) In addition to the above mentioned schemes, seed requirement and availability are regularly assessed State-wise during Zonal Seed Review Meetings organised prior to commencement of each season i.e. kharif and rabi. National Seed Corporation (NSC), State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI) and State Seed Corporations (SSCs) etc. have producing and distributing seeds in addition to the supplementary efforts being made by the State Government in this regard.

गुजरात में गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र में इस्पात संयंत्रों की स्थापना

906. श्री चिमनभाई हरिभाई शुक्ल: क्या इस्पात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार गुजरात सरकार की ओर से गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र में इस्पात संयंत्रों की स्थापना हेतु आशय-पत्र जारी करने के संबंध में कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुआ है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) राज्य सरकार द्वारा इस प्रयोजनार्थ संस्वीकृत की गई गैर-सरकारी कम्पनियों के नाम क्या हैं?

इस्पात मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सन्तोष मोहन देव): (क) से (ग) औद्योगिक लाइसेंस के लिए केन्द्र सरकार की मंजूरी तभी आवश्यक होती है जब प्रस्तावित परियोजना को 1991 की जनगणना के अनुसार 10 लाख से अधिक की जनसंख्या वाले शहर की मानक नगरीय क्षेत्र की परिसीमाओं की परिलेखा से 25 कि०मी० के भीतर अवस्थित किया जाना हो और यदि परियोजना 25 जुलाई, 1991 से पूर्व राज्य सरकार द्वारा "औद्योगिक क्षेत्र" के रूप में घोषित क्षेत्र में स्थापित न हो। इस्पात क्षेत्र में अन्य सभी परियोजनाओं के संबंध में उद्यमियों को उद्योग मंत्रालय में औद्योगिक अनुमोदन सचिवालय (एस०आई०ए०) को निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ज्ञापन देना अपेक्षित होता है।

उपलब्ध सूचना के अनुसार निजी क्षेत्र में इस्पात संयंत्र स्थापित करने के लिए आशय-पत्र जारी करने हेतु केन्द्र सरकार को गुजरात सरकार से कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है।

Participation of Medium and Small Scale Sectors in the Development of Steel Industry

907.SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the liberalisation of the steel sector, Government has laid down any clear cut guidelines for participation of the medium/small scale sector vis-a-vis the major participators, in its development;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the manner in which the normal growth of the medium and small scale sectors is sought to be ensured; whether any checks and balances have been formulated for this purpose and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the financial/technical supports being provided to the medium/small scale sector to ensure the percolation of gains of the liberalistion policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) Liberalisation policy in the steel sector has done away with licensing and controls on pricing and distribution. The steel sector, in its entirety, is subject to the provisions of the new industrial policy under which it has been accorded the status of a "high priority" industry. No separate guidelines or provision of check and balances, other than the provisions of the new industrial policy, have been necessary for purposes such as ensuring participation, normal growth, or providing any special and exclusive financial technical support to the medium and small scale industries in the steel, sector.

Agro Based Industries

908.SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of agro based industries;

(b) the details of the industries in regard to which proposals are pending for treating them as agro based industries;

(c) the time by which an announcement is likely to be made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN): (a) Agro-based industries cover a wide range of articles made out of the products of agricultural and allied activities.

These include both food products and non-food products.

Food Processing Industries based on agricultural activities inter-alia include cereals and pulses processing industries, fruits & vegetable processing industries, milk & milk product industries, meat, fish and poultry processing industries, sugar, edible oils, oleoresins, etc. Bookeeping is also considered agro-based activity.

Non-food industries based on agricultural activities include jute and mesta-based industries, cotton textiles, sericulture industry, cattle feed, poultry & fish feeds, medicines from herbs, paper and allied products etc.

Besides processing, packaging of agro-based products is also an agro-based industry.

(b) and (c) According to information